



# BAY LEAVES

AAUW/San Mateo

<http://sanmateo-ca.aauw.net>

January 2023, Vol 93, Issue 5

## Co-Presidents' Message

Maureen and Stephen Buchner

Let's get ready to welcome 2023. What sort of year do we want it to be? If we want it to be one of better health, equality, equal wages and opportunities for women and marginalized people, it will take an effort from everyone. We know that you are concerned about these issues or you wouldn't be part of AAUW and support its mission.

First, we must remain vigilant. Battles we thought we had won are rearing up even though our memories tell us we have fought these battles before. Remember that AAUW has a mission to advocate for us—so let's continue to assure that our voices are heard!

Sure, we are older, maybe a bit tired, but we can't let our equity opportunities slip away. Three of the best ways to support AAUW are the following.

With AAUW's online *Two-Minute Activist* tool, it takes just minutes and an internet connection to make your voice heard on issues impacting women and girls! If you haven't signed up to be a *2-minute activist*, make that a New Year's plan.

Members of AAUW's *Action Network* receive urgent e-mail notices and text messages when their advocacy is needed most. In addition, AAUW will provide all the tools you need to call or send messages to your members of Congress, write letters to the editor for your local newspapers, contact your state legislators about pressing issues, and more.

The AAUW *Action Fund* provides *Get Out The Voter* and voter education resources in addition to lobbying on Capital Hill for the issues affecting women and girls. Learn more about our work to advance gender equity and how you can get involved at this website: ([www.aauwaction.org](http://www.aauwaction.org))

Happy, Busy, New Year!

## San Mateo Branch 2023 Calendar

- |        |   |
|--------|---|
| Jan 14 | <i>The Immigrant Experience in San Mateo County</i> , presented by Carmen Blair of the San Mateo Historical Association. The meeting will be by Zoom at 2:00 pm                       |
| Feb 11 | Our speaker is Dr. Laura Jones, Stanford University Directory of Heritage Services and University Archaeologist. <i>Topic to be announced.</i> The meeting will be by Zoom at 2:00 pm |
| Mar 11 | <i>Women in Blue/Hispanics in Blue</i> Our speaker is Christina Corpus, Sheriff-Elect for San Mateo County Redwood Shores Public Library 399 Marine Pwky, RWC, at 2:00 pm             |
| May 13 | Judge LaDoris Cordell, Author of, <i>Her Honor: My Life on the Bench...What Works, What's Broken, and How to Change It.</i> This is a joint meeting with Mid-Peninsula.               |

## Public Policy/Current Events

The January 2023 Public Policy Group will hear from Daniel Barrera of HIP Housing in San Mateo County who will describe their programs to help people find housing. The meeting is on Tuesday, January 10 at 10:30 am. The meeting will be by Zoom.

HIP Housing is a non-profit organization that creates a place to call home for thousands of people in San Mateo County. HIP Housing supports three housing programs. The *Home Sharing Program* helps match individuals seeking housing with people who have a room or Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) to rent. The *Self Sufficiency Program (SSP)* provides housing assistance and support services to low-income parents or emancipated foster youth. The *Property Development and Management Program* has allowed HIP Housing to preserve and expand the amount of available affordable rental housing in San Mateo County. Please come to hear about this important organization in San Mateo County.

## January General Meeting

### *The Immigrant Experience in San Mateo County*

Our January meeting, *The Immigrant Experience in San Mateo County*, will be an interesting presentation showcasing the incredible ethnic diversity that is a part of San Mateo County's rich cultural heritage. Our speaker will be Carmen Blair, Deputy Director of the San Mateo Historical Association. The meeting is by Zoom on Saturday, January 14, at 2:00 pm.

Immigrants have long been part of the story of San Mateo County. In 1880 and in 2020, one-third of the population of San Mateo County was born in another country. Focusing on the themes of leaving home, finding work, discrimination and maintaining culture, Blair will explore stories of some of the largest immigrant groups who have come to this area since the Gold Rush. Her presentation will be based on research and oral history interviews conducted for one of San Mateo County History Museum's permanent exhibits.

Our speaker, Carmen Blair, joined the staff of the Historical Association in 1998 and has been Deputy Director since 2007. Among her many responsibilities, she is involved with school programs, public programs for adults and children, exhibit design and publications. She served as a regional representative of the American Association of State and Local History National Awards Team for four years. Carmen received her B.A. in History from Gustavus Adolphus College (St. Peter, MN) and her M.A. in Museum Studies from San Francisco State University.

This meeting is being co-hosted with us by the AAUW Mid-Peninsula Branch. Please join us and invite friends, neighbors and colleagues by sharing the Zoom link with those who would enjoy the presentation and learning more about AAUW.

### **The AAUW San Mateo Branch Ethel Gayman Scholarship Committee Needs You!**

The Ethel Gayman Scholarship supports high-achieving local community college students as they transition into a full bachelor's degree program. We need volunteers to serve on the Scholarship Committee to select the recipients of these scholarships. This committee will work actively from the last week of March through mid-April to choose the 2023/24 recipients of this scholarship. We will review about 12 applications from students chosen by their college, select finalists to interview via Zoom, and select the final recipients.

Last year's recipients of the Ethel Gayman Scholarship went on to attend UC-Berkeley; UC-Santa Cruz; San

Francisco State University; Cal State, Stanislaus; and Cal State Poly, San Luis Obispo.

This is your opportunity to meet the young leaders from our county's community colleges and support them in their academic goals. Meeting these amazing young people is one of the best parts of the committee's work. Contact Cindy Robbins-Roth if you want to join this committee.

## Public Policy

Kathleen Harper, AAUW-CA, Public Policy Committee

### **NOVEMBER 8<sup>th</sup> WAS A GOOD DAY FOR WOMEN!**

The election is finally over and, overall, AAUW members can be pretty happy with the results. Here are a few highlights:

- One woman was added to each house of Congress: the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate, bringing the numbers to 124 (H) and 25 (S).
- Of the total of 149, 54 are women of color.
- With Nancy Pelosi stepping down as Speaker of the House, we lost the most powerful woman's voice in government, but still have a woman on the minority leadership team, Minority Whip Katherine Clark.
- Governors of 12 states are now women.
- 23% of all mayors across the nation are women, including our brand new and first woman mayor of Los Angeles, Karen Bass.
- 32 women won seats in the California Legislature (total confirmed 44, 3 pending)
- All executive positions in California except Governor are filled by women, including Secretary of State, Lieutenant Governor, Treasurer, and Controller.
- Proposition 1 prevailed and women's right to control their own reproductive choices is now enshrined in our constitution.

The state Public Policy Committee thanks each and every AAUW California member who voted, who assisted in our Voter Education (VE) campaign by spreading our messages on social media, who took the pledge to vote for Prop 1 (we had 437 sign up!), and who worked within their branches to do their own VE events.

**Next challenge:** let's add California to that list of states with a woman governor! Together we can—and will—change the world!

### **Happy New Year!**

May you have good health, good experiences, and good company. Remember, as Confucius said: *If you are the smartest person in the room, you are in the wrong room.* Go out and challenge yourself in 2023!

## January 2023 Interest Sections

Mary Ann McKay

Boggle (All Members Welcome)  
Judy Steele  
Wed. Jan 18, at 1:30 pm  
Host: Judy Steele

Book Discussion I  
Elissa James  
Thurs. Jan 19, at 10:00 am  
Host: Carol Rose  
*Davos Man*, Peter S. Goodman

Book Discussion II (wait list)  
Karlyn Schneider  
Thurs. Jan 26, at noon  
Host: Karlyn Schneider

Book Discussion III (wait list)  
Mary Ann McKay  
Pat Fuetsch  
Thurs. Jan 19, at 1:30 pm (Date Change)  
Host: Diane Silven  
*The Great Gatsby*, F. Scott Fitzgerald

Bridge  
Elissa James  
Mon. Jan 16, at 1:00 pm  
Host: Marge Denni

California Fact & Legend  
Helen Hatchett  
Tues. Jan 3 at 10:30 am, (Brunch)  
Host: Bobbi Benson  
*Sutro's, The Palace at Land's End*, DVD

Drama Reading  
Marjorie Kobe  
Wed. Jan 11, at 9:00 am  
The Regent, 1 Baldwin Ave, San Mateo

Foreign Affairs - Great Decisions  
Margo King  
Thurs. Jan 12, at 10:30 am  
Host: Marilyn & Mark Meyerson  
Topic: TBD

Lunch Bunch!  
Annette Delaney  
Fri. Jan 20, at noon (Time Change)  
Tamari Georgian Cuisine, 1151 San Carlos Ave, SC

Mah Jongg  
Helen Hatchett  
Wed. Jan 11, at 1:00 pm  
Tues. Jan 24, at 1:00 pm  
Host: Helen Hatchett

Membership: New and Prospective  
Mary Ann McKay

Movie Group  
Mary Ann McKay  
Tues. Jan 17, time TBD  
Watch for email from Mary Ann for information about January movie. Email Mary Ann to be added to the email list.

Mystery Book Group  
Mikki Coffino  
Fri. Jan 13, at 1:30 pm  
Host: Barb Schotzko  
*Give Unto Others*, Donna Leon

Public Policy/Current Events  
Nancy Hobbs  
Diane Silven  
Tues. Jan 10, at 10:30 am  
The meeting will be by Zoom  
Daniel Barrera, HIP Housing

Walking 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays 10:00 am year round  
Bobbi Benson  
Mon. Jan 9, 10:00 am  
Mon. Jan 23, 10:00 am  
Contact Bobbi Benson for more information.

American Association of University Women  
P.O. Box 1465  
San Mateo, CA 94401-0816

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research.  
*By joining AAUW you belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so all women have a fair chance.*

January 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 <i>New Year's Day</i>	2	3 CA Fact & Legend	4	5 AAUW Board Meeting	6	7
8	9 Walking	10 Public Policy	11 Drama Reading Mah Jongg	12 Foreign Affairs	13 Mystery Book Group	14 General Meeting
15	16 <i>Martin Luther King Jr. Day</i> Bridge	17 Movie Group	18 Boggle	19 Book I Book III	20 Lunch Bunch	21
22	23 Walking	24 Mah Jongg	25	26 Book II	27	28
29	30	31				